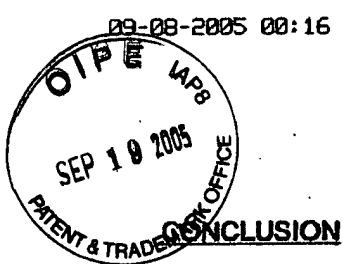


REMARKS

The Office Action states that claims 1, 2, 11-14, 23 and 24 of the present application are generic, but that the application contains claims directed to species that correspond to the embodiments shown in Figure 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5 and 6.

Assignee provisionally elects the species shown in Fig. 6. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are not directed to the elected species; and claims 10 and 22 are directed to the elected species. Further claims 3, 6, 15 and 18, while not generic to all species, do read on the elected species and are therefore also in proper condition for examination. If the Examiner accepts the categorization above, Assignee submits that examination should proceed based on claims 1-3, 6, 9-15, 18, and 21-24.

The above amendment to the claims is fully supported by the original disclosure. No new matter has been introduced. The above amendments were, in many instances, made to clarify Assignee's claims and do not narrow the scope of the amended claims. Furthermore, in many instances, the above amendments broaden the literal scope of claims and/or claim elements. In light of this, Assignee asserts that no prosecution history estoppel should result from the above amendments.

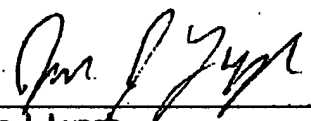


In view of the foregoing, It is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in this patent application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439.6500. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Any fees or extensions of time believed to be due in connection with this amendment are enclosed herein; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-3130.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 16, 2005



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